

## Post Shorts

### Picerne takes over recycling

Picerne Military Housing is responsible for the collection of residential household trash and recycling in Aberdeen Proving Ground housing areas. Both the trash and recycling pick up will be on Tuesdays.

For more information, contact the Picerne Neighborhood Office 410-305-1076.



### Women's History Month Lunchtime Training

APG's Federal Women's Program celebrates Women's History Month March 3 with a presentation, "Defining Your Place in History," by local author Gyleen Fitzgerald from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility, building E4516, in the Edgewood Area. Bring a lunch, visit with vendors, win door prizes and participate in a book exchange. Fiction, non-fiction and educational books are welcome.

For more information call Annette Jones, 410-436-8752.

### FWP 20th Annual Training Conference

In celebration of Women's History Month, the APG's Federal Women's Program is hosting a day of workshops, starting 8:15 a.m. March 3 at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Conference Center, building E4810 in the Edgewood Area. The 2010 theme is "Writing Women Back into History."

Workshop topics include public speaking skills, effective communication, Reductions In Force, and the Thrift Savings Plan. Registration deadline is March 2 and supervisor's approval is required. To register visit [www.apg.army.mil/AKOSSOprompt/fwp.cfm](http://www.apg.army.mil/AKOSSOprompt/fwp.cfm). For more information or help registering call Renee Coleman, 410-278-5961, Sheryl Coleman, 410-278-5964, or Diane Siler, 410-436-2681.

### Drop off sites for old meds March 1-5

As part of the Prescription and Over-the Counter Drug Awareness Campaign, Upper Chesapeake Health has partnered with APG to set up a drop-off station for expired and unused medications.

The station is located at "The Village of Swan Creek" 2027 Pulaski Highway, Suite 206, Havre De Grace, and will

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## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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Photo by T.C. GLASSMAN, DES

From left, Dave Stamper and Dennis Hancock, high voltage electricians from the Directorate of Public Works, Facilities, Maintenance and Operations Division, repair power lines in the 3500 block in the Aberdeen Area during the second blizzard to hit the mid-Atlantic in less than a week Feb. 10. Crews from DPW and the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center were awarded for around-the clock efforts during the 2009/2010 winter which dropped more than 80 inches of snow on the region during an award ceremony at Top of the Bay Feb. 18.

## Garrison awards DPW, ATC for snow removal efforts

Story by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison leaders recognized several civilian employees and contractors with the Directorate of Public Works and the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center for supporting the installation through the historical Fiscal Year 2010 winter storms during an award ceremony at Top of the Bay Feb. 18.

Colonel Orlando W. Ortiz, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney J. Rhoades presented certificates of appreciation to the awardees accompanied by Col. Jeffrey P. Holt, ATC commander and

DPW director Thomas Kuchar. In addition, Rhoades and Holt distributed Garrison and ATC coins of excellence.

"We don't take enough time to recognize you and show that we appreciate all the work you've done with quality and professionalism," Rhoades told the roomful of workers.

"It's all about team work," Ortiz said. "This team supports the whole installation. Thanks to your efforts we still managed to save money because you worked very hard and made it happen."

"Our ability to open the installation is the result of your actions and we thank you for everything you've done and will continue to do."

According to Kuchar, DPW teams from the High Voltage, HVAC, Roads and Grounds and Buildings sections, along with personnel from ATC and Picerne Military Housing handled a "record-breaking accumulation of more than eighty inches of snow," as a result of the Dec. 19, 2009 snow storm and the back-to-back blizzards, Feb. 5 and 6 and Feb. 9 and 10, 2010.

"The combined efforts of DPW, Picerne and the voluntary help of ATC worked diligently to restore APG back to normal operations as soon as possible," Kuchar said.

He extended thanks to the Directorate of Logistics for food, fuel and maintenance support for the workers and the Directorate of

See **SNOW**, page 3

## AFAP delegates choose top five issues of Army Soldiers, Families

Story by  
**ROB MCILVAINE**  
FMWR Public Affairs and  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

On the final day of the 2010 Army Family Action Plan conference held in early January, delegates broke from individual working groups and voted on the top five issues that Army senior leaders will discuss at the General Officer Steering Committee meeting in June.

This feedback, they believe, can lead to policy changes that will encourage Families "to

consider the Army their home."

Overall, the conference, held Jan. 11 to 15, brought 82 issues originating from installation-level AFAP conferences held during the past year.

With these issues came nearly 100 delegates to whittle the original list of concerns down to the 16 considered to be of the highest priority. Resolving such problems helps to elevate the standard of living for Soldiers, retirees, Family members, survivors and civilian employees, said conference participants.

This on-going process is

considered paramount by Army leaders, like the Secretary of the Army, the Honorable John McHugh.

"Our challenge is to provide for Soldiers and Families as best we can," McHugh told conference attendees.

"Your role is essential to help us focus on implementation of these programs; to ensure they're the best to provide what's needed."

Secretary McHugh was joined by Army Chief of Staff, Gen. George W. Casey; Gen. Peter Chiarelli, Army vice

chief of staff; Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

Before the top issues were voted upon, Casey briefed conference members on Army plans for the coming year.

"The Secretary of the Army, John McHugh, and I have six major objectives for [2011]. We will continue our efforts to restore balance to the Army by [2011]; execute Afghanistan plus-up and responsible drawdown in Iraq; sustain Soldiers, Families and

See **AFAP**, page 9



## Black History Month 2010: Celebrating APG notables

In celebration of Black History Month, the APG News is profiling Aberdeen Proving Ground African Americans who have reached the pinnacles of their careers. The observance began in the Feb. 11 issue with a feature on Phillip B. Hunter, chief of the Acquisition/Business Law Division of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command who was a participant in the historical Selma-to-Montgomery, Ala. marches in 1965. Hunter was the guest speaker for the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration held Jan. 27 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center.

This week, the APG News

looks at the career of Alvin D. "Ajay" Thornton, the director of Engineering at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center and the sole African American Senior Executive Service member on the installation. The observance wraps up in the March 4 issue with a profile on Master Sgt. Michelle B. Davis, the senior equal opportunity advisor for the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) along with coverage of the installation's Black History Month program that was held Feb. 24.

The 2010 Black History Month theme is: The History of Black Economic Empowerment.

## APG closing announcements

If the installation is closed, is experiencing a delay in opening or if liberal leave is in effect due to weather or other emergency situations, check for postings on the local television and radio stations, WAPG-TV Channel 21 (on Aberdeen Proving Ground) or call 410-278-SNOW (7669).

A recorded telephone message will contain updated information and should begin at about 5 a.m.

Announcements about federal offices in the greater Baltimore metropolitan area do not apply to APG; listen for those that name APG specifically.

For general information, call the APG Public Affairs Office, 410-278-1147.

Station	Frequency	Location
WAMD	AM 970	Aberdeen
WXCY	FM 103.7	Havre de Grace
WBAL	AM 1090	Baltimore
WIYY	FM 97.9	Baltimore
WPOC	FM 93.1	Baltimore
WDEL	AM 1150	Wilmington, Del.
WSTW	FM 93.7	Wilmington, Del.
WSBA	AM 910	York, Pa.
WARM	FM 103.3	York, Pa.
WROZ	FM 101.3	Lancaster, Pa.
WBAL-TV	Channel 11	Baltimore
WMAR-TV	Channel 2	Baltimore
WBFF-TV	Channel 45	Baltimore
WJZ-TV	Channel 13	Baltimore



APG

celebrates

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

# ECBC engineer quietly achieves

Story and photo by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

When he was a teenager, Alvin D. Thornton was certain he was headed for a career in the tobacco industry that dominated the Richmond, Va. region where he grew up. Both of his parents worked for big tobacco companies and Thornton didn't see why his future should be any different.

"Growing up, kids focused on buying cars and clothes and these were the jobs that provided that means of support," Thornton said.

His mother, however, saw different. "She told me, 'You have a lot more to offer,'" he said. "At the time, I couldn't see that myself but from that point on, it was positive reinforcement like that that spurred me on to achieve whenever I was faced with adversity."

Thornton is the director of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's Engineering Directorate and the only African American member of the Senior Executive Service - the elite group of government executives tasked with leading the civilian workforce - on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Thornton is responsible for policy development, management oversight and the direction of ECBC programs involving testing, life cycle acquisition and sustainment support of chemical biological defense systems and materials. He oversees engineering developments, technology purchases, rapid prototyping and engineering programs for the CB Defense Program.

Thornton attained SES level in 2008 after 26 years of government service which he began in 1982 as a GS-5 physical scientist with the former U.S. Army Chemical Systems Laboratory. Now, with nearly 30 years of service, he is reluctant to call himself 'successful.'

"I guess I've just been driven," he said. "My parents had a lot of faith in me and I didn't want to disappoint them."

He said he was an average student in high school but his parents insisted on college and he attained Honor Society status within his first two years at Morgan State University.

He graduated in 1981, a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, with a degree in Geography.

Even with a degree jobs were hard to come by. He worked for the Richmond



*The sole African American member of the Senior Executive Service on Aberdeen Proving Ground, Alvin D. "Alay" Thornton directs the Engineering Directorate of the U.S Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's Edgewood Chemical Biological Center.*

Public School system as a math teacher for a year. He said it was fulfilling to work with children but he wanted more.

On a colleague's recommendation, he took a Civil Service Exam and was interviewed by the Defense Mapping and the Central Intelligence agencies. Although he had misgivings about the position, he was about to accept the job with the CIA when he received a call about a position at APG.

"Not knowing much about APG, I accepted the job because I thought it was the best choice for me at the time," he said.

Over his career, Thornton took on greater tasks and responsibilities. His past positions include primary test coordinator ; data item manager; development engineer; systems engineer; assistant project manager; chief, product assurance; technical liaison for Headquarters, Department of the Army and the U.S. Army Materiel Command as well as deputy director for engineering prior to his current position.

Thornton said he is most proud of his work on the FOX NBC Reconnaissance

Vehicle, which was used during Operations Desert Shield/Storm.

Thornton said he was offered positions on a variety of CB Defense projects throughout his career due to his strong work ethic and a demonstrated ability to get the job done right the first time.

"They knew what I had done and had confidence in what I could achieve," he said, adding that his test strategy on the FOX program was "hailed as a model for other programs to follow."

"I didn't think I would ever be able to do anything to parallel that particular accomplishment," he said.

Thornton frequently reaches out to youths, both college and high school, through mentoring programs. He said he enjoys sharing his knowledge to promote others to achieve.

"It means a lot to have others value your thoughts and contributions," he said. "I see myself as a role model. It's not something I sought but something I've accepted, as a person of color."

Thornton currently supports an ECBC undergraduate mentoring program

which is supported by the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"It's been an overwhelming success," he said, "and the program's director, Neslie Etheridge will tell you ECBC is leading the charge and has raised the bar."

He also participates in support programs for Soldiers both on APG and deployed.

"You can't expect employees to participate if you're not," Thornton said. "Soldiers are the reason we're here and you have to lead by example."

He credited his parents with shaping the person he has become.

"All of what I've achieved comes from discipline," he said. "My parents were good disciplinarians. They believed that if you fell down the only thing to do was dust yourself off and try it again."

"I've had a lot of mentors in my life, but if not for my parents, it's highly likely I would have satisfied myself with a manufacturing job," he said. "I guess I did have a lot more to offer."

# 'Triple Nickles' recall days of segregated Army

Story by  
**KRIS GONZALEZ**  
Fort Jackson Leader

In 1946, 18-year-old Charles Stevens enlisted in the Army to provide a better life for his wife and new baby.

He trained to be a medical administrator and was sent to Alaska for his first assignment in an all-black battalion.

The North Carolina native had been dealing with the cold for six months when one day he walked into his first sergeant's office and saw a flyer that read "Volunteer for airborne duty."

"I finished that application before I even left that office," Stevens said.

Within a month, Stevens flew to Fort Benning, Ga., to jump from the sky.

Stevens said he remembers all too well what it was like training to be a black paratrooper in a segregated Army.

"If a white Soldier completed airborne training, he got all the stuff he needed, then was assigned to a nice, big combat division or regiment," Stevens said. "When I got mine (airborne status), people wanted to tell me, 'I don't want you to have that type of thing,' because of the color of my skin. That hurt."

Despite the racial tensions, Stevens earned his parachute wings and landed at Fort Bragg, N.C. where he became a member of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion.

"I finally felt like I belonged to some-

thing," Stevens said as he recalled his first days serving in the all-black battalion.

The unit, commissioned in December 1943, had not seen combat during World War II. Racist leaders viewed black Soldiers as both physically and mentally unfit to fight, often assigning them to menial jobs in support of white Soldiers. But the "Triple Nickles" - before Stevens joined their ranks - had become known as "smoke jumpers" for parachuting into West Coast forests and putting out fires set by Japanese incendiary balloons.

One morning in December 1947, the Triple Nickles were ordered to march to an area designated for the 82nd Airborne Division. There, he said, they were to participate in one of the most significant milestones in military history.

"We were in battalion formation, and our battalion commander presented us to the commanding general," Stevens said. "In that formation, the Triple Nickles were deactivated."

The 555th had just become the 3rd Battalion of the 505th Parachute Infantry Brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division.

"Everybody was crying," he said. "I think we were crying for two different reasons. We were glad that segregation was leaving the Army and we were sad we were losing our Triple Nickle colors."

Maj. Gen. James Gavin, who became a legend for fighting against segregation

in the Army, had ordered the 555th's integration into the elite airborne division.

It wasn't until seven months later, when President Harry Truman signed Executive Order 9981, that the black paratroopers got their full rights as American Soldiers. Executive Order 9981 established equality of treatment and opportunity in the Armed Services for people of all races, religions, or national origins.

It took about another five years for the Army to fully integrate, said Manuel Rucker, who enlisted in the Army in 1950, the same year the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion was disbanded.

"Back in the old days, when your orders were cut, they had your name, and if you were black, the words, 'negro enlisted,' after it," Rucker said. "After we integrated, they stopped putting those words on orders, but instead used a code to describe who you were - 'one' for white and 'two' for black. The first sergeant at each company would have a roster of everybody with the codes. They weren't supposed to know our color, but they knew."

"And during Basic Training at Fort Knox," he said, "although every Soldier sat in the same classroom, at the end of the day, the white Soldiers went to one barracks and the black Soldiers went to separate barracks."

Standing 6-feet, 4-inches tall and weighing 200 pounds at 19 years old,

Rucker said he didn't personally experience a great deal of overt discrimination.

"Not too many people messed with me too much," he said.

Rucker never finished BCT, he said. By the time he reached the 12th week of his 15-week cycle, he and 21 other Soldiers were pulled from training to become what are now called drill sergeants.

Rucker said he trained Soldiers of every color.

"A Soldier was a Soldier," he said.

Today, both Stevens and Rucker are members of North Carolina's Fayetteville-Fort Bragg Chapter of the 555th Parachute Infantry Association, which honors the legacy of the original Triple Nickles.

During the association's recent annual luncheon at Fort Jackson, S.C. the paratroopers had the opportunity to meet Gavin's grandson, Staff Sgt. Joseph Gavin, who is a drill sergeant for Company A, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment.

The former paratroopers spoke favorably about the "Jumping General," who earned his nickname for jumping alongside his troops during combat. The general's grandson spoke highly about the Triple Nickles.

"I'm proud my grandfather recognized the talents of these Soldiers and helped integrate them into the 82nd Airborne (Division)," Gavin said. "They paved the way for all Soldiers who followed them."



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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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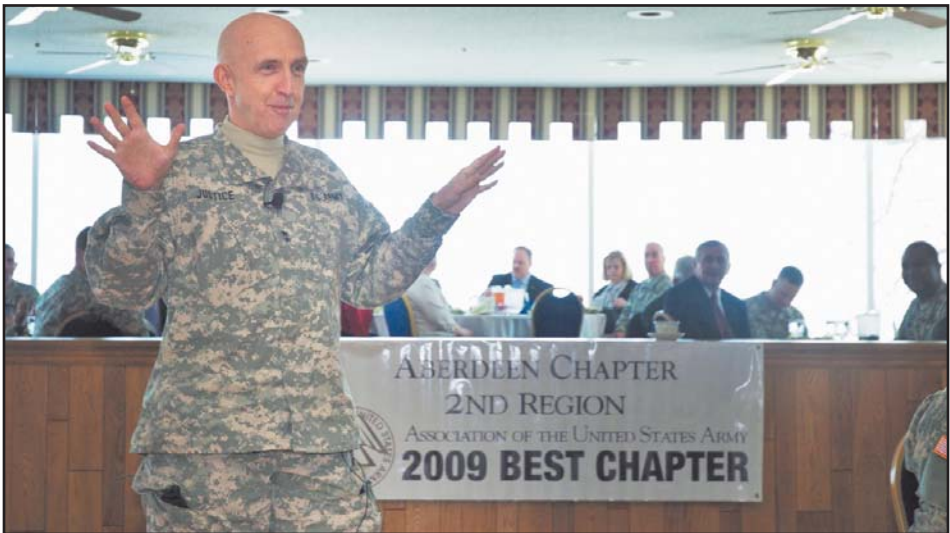
# Aberdeen Proving Ground readies for transformation

Story and photo by  
**DAVID MCNALLY**  
RDECOM

About 150 people gathered at the Top of the Bay, Feb. 16 for an Association of the United States Army luncheon. Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Research, Development and Engineering Command, told the group about Army transformation.

“It’s important for our community here to understand about RDECOM,” Justice said. “It’s a very large organization; seventeen-thousand strong with twelve-thousand scientists and engineers. That’s as powerful as any corporation in America ... and all capable, competent people, ready to lead in any aspect of science and technology and engineering that we want to deal with.”

Justice explained that with RDECOM’s headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground, the region will soon see many changes. “This place will become the gateway for science, technology and engineering for the Army, and I suspect for the Department of Defense, and oth-



About 150 people gathered at the Top of the Bay Club Feb. 16 for an Association of the United States Army luncheon. Major Gen. Nick Justice, commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, told the group about Army transformation.

er agencies like Homeland Security, and for the nation,” Justice said. “There is your first challenge right there - It is to make this place the new center for science, technology and engineering for our nation.”

Justice told the group how RDECOM is honing in on engineering solutions. “We need to build systems in the Army to solve problems and do it with the same responsible constraints of time and money that we take in our own personal lives,” he said.

“So, we’re going to focus on engineering.”

The AUSA Aberdeen Chapter meets monthly to listen to guest speakers, discuss business, and recognize outstanding community members.

“Our mission is to educate the public about how to support the Soldier,” said chapter president Mary Jane Jernigan.

In the past two years, the Aberdeen AUSA chapter has grown to more than 475 members, and been nationally recognized as the best all-around chapter in the nation.

“Our driving force is our passion that these things need to be done,” Jernigan said.

The chapter supports Soldiers, Army civilians and the APG community through fundraisers, scholarships and informational meetings.

“Being a member of the AUSA is a great way to network and meet people from other organizations on the installation,” Jernigan said.

The Aberdeen AUSA Chapter meets the third Tuesday of every month. For more information, visit [http://www. ausa-aberdeen.org](http://www.ausa-aberdeen.org).

## Holy Season worship schedule

### Lenten and Easter services

All are welcome to attend Easter Sunrise service, 7 a.m., April 4, inside the Main Post Chapel. Refreshments will be offered after the service.

Lenten and Bible Study will be held 11:30 a.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 in the Main Post Chapel Social Hall.

### Main Post Chapel (Aberdeen Area) Catholic services

- Feb. 28, 8:45 a.m., second Sunday of Lent
- March 5, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, soup and bread
- March 7, 8:45 a.m., third Sunday of Lent
- March 14, 8:45 a.m., fourth Sunday of Lent
- March 19, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, Soup and bread
- March 21, 8:45 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- March 28, 8:30 a.m., Palm Sunday
- March 31, 6:30 p.m., Anointing Mass
- April 2, 3 p.m., Veneration of the Cross
- April 3, 8 p.m., Easter Vigil Mass
- April 4, 8:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

### Protestant

- Feb. 28, 10:15 a.m., second Sunday of Lent
- March 7, 10:15 a.m., third Sunday of Lent
- March 14, 10:15 a.m., fourth Sunday of Lent
- March 21, 10:15 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
- March 28, 10:15 a.m., Easter Cantata
- April 4, 10:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

### Gospel

- Feb. 28, noon, second Sunday of Lent
- March 7, noon, third Sunday of Lent
- March 14, noon, fourth Sunday of Lent
- March 21, noon, fifth Sunday of Lent
- March 28, noon, Palm Sunday
- April 4, noon, Easter Sunday

### Edgewood Area

#### Catholic services

- Feb. 26, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, soup and bread
- Feb. 28, 10:45 a.m., second Sunday of Lent
- March 7, 10:45 a.m. third Sunday of Lent

- March 12, 6 p.m. Stations of The Cross, soup and bread
  - March 14, 10:45 a.m., fourth Sunday of Lent
  - March 21, 10:45 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
  - March 26, 6 p.m., Stations of the Cross, soup and bread
  - March 28, 10:45 a.m. Palm Sunday
  - April 1, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday Mass
  - April 2, 3 p.m., Veneration of the Cross
  - April 4, 10:45 a.m., Easter Sunday
- ### Protestant
- Feb. 28, 9:15 a.m., second Sunday of Lent
  - March 7, 9:15 a.m., third Sunday of Lent
  - March 14, 9:15 a.m., fourth Sunday of Lent
  - March 21, 9:15 a.m., fifth Sunday of Lent
  - March 28, 9:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
  - April 4, 9:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

### Jewish events

“A Jewish Celebration of Freedom,” will be held at the Temple Adas Shalom Harford Jewish Center located on 8 North Earlton Road Ext., Havre de Grace.

Purim is a festival that commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people of the ancient Persian Empire from an evil plot to annihilate them, as recorded in the Biblical Book of Esther. Purim is celebrated annually according to the Hebrew calendar on the day following the victory of the Jews over their enemies; Purim begins at sundown on the previous secular day. Purim is characterized by public recitation of the Book of Esther, giving mutual gifts of food and drink, giving charity to the poor and a celebratory meal include drinking wine, wearing of masks and costumes and public celebration.

A Megillah Reading, worship service and Family Purim Festival will be held 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Feb. 28.

The Passover Seder, is March 30. For more information, call Lt. Col. Jonas Vogelhut, 410-306-4051, or e-mail [jonas-vogelhut@us.army.mil](mailto:jonas-vogelhut@us.army.mil).

## Chapel News

### Financial Peace University Classes

Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University classes will begin 6:30 p.m., March 2, at the Main Post Chapel. Registration is preferred for planning purposes. The classes are open to all, but priority will be given to service members and spouses. Financial training is mission readiness. This training will dramatically impact the lives of all who attend. The classes cover such topics as “Super Saving, Dumping Debt, Credit Sharks in Suits, Role of

Insurance, Your Financial Plan, Planning for College, Retirement, Understanding Investments, Real Estate and Mortgages” and more. The sessions will be conducted by retired Sgt. Maj. Nate Simmons and Shirley Simmons, attorney.

For more information or to register, contact Gerri Merkel, 410-278-2516, e-mail [gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil](mailto:gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil), or Shirley or Nate Simmons, 1-410-287-8227, e-mail [nashcds@verizon.net](mailto:nashcds@verizon.net).

## Snow

### From front page

Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, Emergency Operations Center and Public Affairs Office for keeping the lines of communication open.

Kuchar said that during the two February storms, crews worked around the clock for nearly eight consecutive days and that due to conditions in the surrounding areas, many had to remain at APG while their Families took care of themselves.

It took 13 dump trucks, seven front end loaders, four graders, 26 smaller truck plows, numerous snow blowers and “a lot of back work in shoveling” to clear the installation, according to Kuchar.

He said the workers’ efforts allowed APG to remain open six days more than comparable installations in Maryland and the National Capitol Region, which allowed supported organizations to continue their critical missions and avoided tens of millions of dollars in lost labor.

After receiving a coin from Rhoades,

DPW Grounds and Roads laborer Harold Blume said he couldn’t remember how many hours he worked during the storms.

“All I know is I’ve never seen snow like that,” Blume said.

Blume’s supervisor, motor vehicle operator Donald Colter said that more than 30 laborers helped clear sidewalks and major routes during the storms.

“A lot had to be shoveled by hand,” Colter said. “I’m from Maryland and I don’t remember that much snow falling at one time either,” he added. “If it did, it was a long time ago.”



# Community Notes

**FRIDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 26**  
**MOCHA MOMS**

Harford County Chapter Mocha Moms, a nationwide support group for moms of color, is looking for new members to take part in playgroups, family outings and activities, and offer advice and support for moms of all backgrounds. The group meets 10 a.m. every Friday. Kids are welcome. For more information, call Nitza, 410-262-3378 or Dali, 410-322-5196, or e-

mail harfordmochamoms@gmail.com or visit <http://harfordcountymochamoms.yolasite.com>.

**THE FINTON FORMULA FUN VISITING SCIENTIST SERIES**

Come to the center for exciting hands-on chemistry and environmental science fun, guided by guest scientists from the local community. The topic will be Harry Potter Potions Lab. This program will be held 4:30 to 6 p.m. for ages 10 to 12 or 5th through 7th grade. The cost is \$3 per person. Registration

is required. For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo will be held 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, Aberdeen. Doors open 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 each, extra packets cost \$5 each. Proceeds benefit the Aberdeen High School Girls Softball Team. Food, drinks, 20 game bingo raffles and special games will be available. Bring a non-perishable food item for a chance on a special drawing. Needed items include jellies, stews, chili, chunky soups, pancake mixes and syrups.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332 or e-mail Marc.Manzo@hcps.org.

**SATURDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 27**  
**BASKET, PURSE AND PANDORA BINGO**

Basket, Purse and Pandora Bingo will be held 7 p.m. at American Legion Post 128, 44 North Parke Street, Aberdeen. Doors open 6 p.m.

Tickets cost \$12 each, extra packs cost \$5 each. Proceeds will benefit the Aberdeen High School Chorus. Food, drinks, baked goods, raffles, special games and 20 game bingo will be available. Bring a non-perishable food item for a chance on a special drawing. Needed items include jellies, stews, chili, chunky soups, pancake mixes and syrups.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332 or e-mail diana.jackson@hcps.org

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM**

VFW Post 6054, 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen will hold its annual Black History Month program, 2 p.m. The themes will be History in Music, Dance and Poems. There will be performances by the Cokesbury United Methodist Church Mass Choir, Mia Crane and additional entertainment

For more information, call 410-272-3444.

**KNOW YOUR FISH AND EAT THEM TOO!**

Learn to identify the fish found in Otter Point Creek and the Bush River. Participants use icings to do biologically accurate decorating of fish cookies before munching down the favorites. This program will be held 10:30 a.m. to noon for ages 7 to 12. The cost is \$3 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**COLD COMPASS CAPERS**

Learn how to use a compass while negotiating a scavenger hunt in and out of the center - warm treats will be the reward. This program will be held 1 to 2:30 p.m. for all ages. Ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$4 per person or \$8 per family. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**INVASINATORS**

Become a part of the volunteer team of invasive plant removers and native plant restorers. Learn why non-native invasive plants are a threat to our ecosystem, how to identify problem plants, and removal and restoration strategies. Wear sturdy shoes, long sleeves, and work gloves for field work in the reserve each meeting date. Participants receive an Invasinators T shirt. This program will be held 3 to 5 p.m. for ages 14 to adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**SUNDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 28**  
**PARENTS CAMP AND EDUCATION FAIR**

County Parents Magazine will host its eighth annual County Parents Camp and Education Fair, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the John Carroll High School, 703 Churchville Road, Bel Air. This free, fun-filled event will feature a variety of exhibitors offering summer activities and camps from around the region and is designed to be a great resource for Families. Parents can learn about and sign up for programs specializing in sports, academics, education, science and nature, and the arts. There will also be children's entertainment, demonstrations, prizes and giveaways, and the largest collection of camps, schools and summer activities under one roof. For more information visit [www.countyparents.com](http://www.countyparents.com) or call 410-893-1511.

**GRASSES TO THE MASSES WORKSHOP**

Learn what submerged aquatic vegetation is, why it is important to the Bay, and how to help restore bay grasses. In this free workshop for volunteers, instructions, equipment, and plant material to grow SAV at home will all be provided. Then come back this spring to plant the SAV in Otter Point Creek. No experience necessary. This free program will be held 1 to 2:30 p.m. for ages 6 to adult. Ages 6 to 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**SLITHERIN' SNAKES**

Learn the truth about these mysterious creatures and what makes them special. There will be stories, games, crafts, and "up close" time to better understand these legless friends. This program will be held 2:30 to 4 p.m. for ages 7 to 12. The cost is \$3 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

*(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under Community Notes.)*

## Motorcycle Safety Courses

The APG Safety Office, Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, hosts Motorcycle Safety Courses throughout the year. Attendees must register online at AIRS at <https://airs.lmi.org>. For more information, contact H. Mike Allen, APG Safety Office at 410-306-1081.

The following are schedules for the Basic and Experienced courses for 2010.

**Basic Rider Course (BRC)**

Day 1: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., building 4303, Hazardous Waste Training Room  
Days 2 and 3: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Motorcycle Range on Darlington Street  
**Schedule:** March 23-25, April 27-29, May 25-27, June 22-24, July 20-22, Aug. 17-19, Sept. 21-23, Oct. 19-21.

**Experienced Rider Course (ERC)**

Motorcycle range on Darlington Street, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Schedule:** March 19, April 30, May 14, June 25, July 23, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 12.

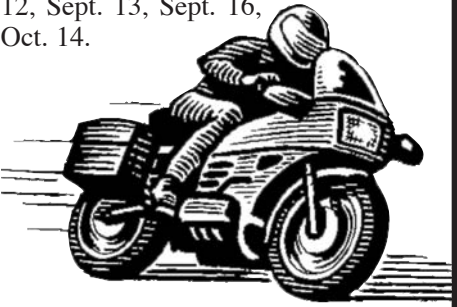
A Military Sport Bike Rider 2010 course is being offered by the Fort Meade Safety Office throughout the

year. The Military Sport Bike Course, MSBC, is held 8 a.m. at the Safety Office classroom, 8548 6th Armored Cavalry Road, Fort Meade, MD 20755.

**Fort Meade MSBC**

Class and range time is dependent on the amount of students and their abilities. Classes should end by 5 p.m. Attendees must register online at AIRS at <https://airs.lmi.org>. For more information, contact Bob Hansen at 410-804-6343.

Fort Meade MSBC classes are scheduled for the following dates: April 12, April 15, May 10, May 13, June 14, June 17, July 12, July 15, Aug. 9, Aug. 12, Sept. 13, Sept. 16, Oct. 14.



Post Shorts

be open 9 to 11 a.m. and 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. March 1 through 5. During that same week, meds can be dropped off anytime at the Aberdeen or Edgewood Area Police Stations. For more information call Cindy Scott, Army Substance Abuse Program, 410-278-4013, or Michael Farlow, Community Policing Officer Directorate of Emergency Services, 410-278-3609.

Restoration Advisory Board meeting tonight

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., at the Richlin Ballroom, 1700 Van Biber Road in Edgewood.

The topic of the meeting will be an update on the O-Field Study Area. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited.

For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

Black History Month lunch time movies

The APG Black Employment Program presents free lunch time movies 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326 and the Stark Recreation Center, building E4140 in the Edgewood Area.

Aberdeen Area

- Feb. 25, Imitation of Life

Edgewood Area

- Feb. 25, A Time to Kill

For more information, contact Bridgette Smith, 410-278-0892.

APG Arbor/Earth Day poster contest

As part of local Aberdeen Proving Ground Earth/Arbor Day celebrations, the Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society (MD ACS) is hosting a poster contest for students in pre-kindergarten through the 12th grade.

Students are invited to create a poster that celebrates the theme: “Plants – The Green Machines!”

The poster should be fun, motivational and inspire students to discover the connection between science, chemistry and plants.

Grade categories are pre-kindergarten through 2nd grade; 3rd through 5th; 6th through 8th; and 9th through 12th.

Posters must be postmarked or hand delivered by Friday, March 19.

Aberdeen and Edgewood Area Youth Center members can turn their posters in

at their centers. All others should follow the mailing instructions.

Awards will be presented during the APG Earth/Arbor Day Celebration April 16. Time and location to be announced. First and second place in each grade category will be awarded

Poster contest entries may be sent via interoffice Harford County Public Schools courier to: Attn: Greg Murrell, North Harford High School

Poster contest entries outside of HCPS may be mailed or taken to:

North Harford High School,  
Attn: Greg Murrell, 211 Pylesville Road,  
Pylesville, MD 21132-1398.

Contest rules

- All entries must be original works without aid from others
- Posters must be no larger than 14x22”
- Entries on foam board will not be accepted
- Entries must be hand-drawn using crayons, paint, colored pencils or markers
- Posters must be sent to the MD ACS local section Earth Day coordinator
- Posters must be submitted to coordinator in time for local contest
- All entries must include following information on the back of the poster: name, grade, t-shirt size, name of school or sponsoring group, teacher/adult contact name, adult contact address, contact telephone number, student/adult contact email address. Home schooled students are eligible for the contest and should include the name of any homeschool group they are associated with.
- Entries lacking complete and legible information will be disqualified.

For contest rules e-mail mdchem@mdchem.org.

Desert Storm veteran’s reunion Feb. 27

The VII Corps Desert Storm Veterans Association will host its 19th Annual Memorial Ceremony and Reunion at Fort Myer, Va. Feb. 27. A chapel service will be held 5 p.m. at the Fort Myer Memorial Chapel followed by a reception at the Fort Myer Officers’ Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Guest speaker will be Maj. Gen. Dana Pittard. Cost is \$25. Make checks payable to “VII Corps Desert Storm Veterans Association” and mail to: VII Corps DSVa, Attn: Dinner; 2425 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201. To make reservations, call 800-506-2672, EXT 4163 by Feb. 22. Dress is civilian informal.

(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) under Shorts.)

Fellowship Program takes applications

Defense Acquisition University is taking applications from Army Civilian Acquisition Corps members, in the Aberdeen Proving Ground or Fort Monmouth areas for the 2010-2011 Senior Service College Fellowship Program at APG.

Fellows will be selected by a centralized selection board. Applicants must, in addition to being a member of the Acquisition Corps at the GS 14,15 or equivalent grades must be within a Demonstration Project or the National Security Personnel System and -

- have a Level III Certification in at least one acquisition functional area;
- have a command endorsement letter from the first General Officer/ Senior Executive Service level in the applicant’s chain of command;
- have or be able to obtain a SECRET clearance;
- have a Bachelor’s Degree;
- be an Army Acquisition Corps member at the time of application;
- be serving in a competitive appointment Tenure Group 1 or 2;
- be identified by one’s organization as being on the track for executive-level service;

- and while not mandatory, it is strongly preferred that applicants will have completed the Program Management PMT 352 Course.

Applications will be taken by the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center. Apply online using the Army Acquisition Professional Development System accessed via the Career Acquisition Management Portal. Individuals will upload their command endorsement letter, SF-50, Performance Appraisal, etc., into the AAPDS.

Fellows will participate in executive leadership training, program management training leading to PMT 401 certification, senior leadership speaker’s program, national security module, research on acquisition topics and field studies, a mentoring program, graduate studies and an optional master’s degree program.

Further application information will be posted at the USAASC website <http://asc.army.mil>. Applications will be accepted through March 23.

Individuals seeking additional information may also contact Jim Oman, the DAU-SSCF program director, james.oman@dau.mil, 410-436-7257 or 703-254-3255.





*Freestate Academy's James Williams, 13, and Kelby Mowery, 42, of the U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional) go up for a rebound as teammates, from left, John Torres, 25, Dimitri Green, 14, and Brian Demeio, 21, look on during an intramural basketball game at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center Feb. 17.*

# Freestate out hustles USAPHC, 41-20

*Story and photo by*  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
*APG News*

The youthful energy of the cadets of the Military Youth Corps Freestate Chal-leNGe Academy propelled the team to a 21-point win over the U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional) (formerly the U.S. Army Center for Health Promo-tion and Preventive Medicine), during an intramural basketball game at the Aber-deen Area Athletic Center Feb. 17.

Leroy Pinckney, Freestate coach and a cadre sergeant led the cadets on and off the floor. High scorers were Ash-ford Samuel for Freestate and USAPHC coach Chris Freeman.

Freestate never trailed during the con-test, which it led by 10, 18-8 at the half.

“We need to slow them down,” Free-man said during the break. “We can stop them on defense. We just need to play together.”

Pinckney said his team was still a work in progress.

“They’re very athletic. We just need

to work on teamwork, camaraderie and jelling,” he said.

The USAPHC team stepped up on offense but its defense couldn’t hold Freestate which cruised to a win, outscor-ing USAPHC 23-12 in the second half.

“We just need a little more support from players,” said USAPHC’s Brian Demeio.

Noting that some players were lost to temporary duty assignments, Freeman said the team would step up efforts after the loss.

“They played hard but it’s tough when you only have five people,” he said. “We’ll rebound and we’ll be back.”

Samuels, a 17-year old from Brook-lyn, Md., said he joined the team to have something to do and to get to know his comrades.

“Our first game, we played well,” he said, “but now we’re playing with con-fidence that should carry us through the whole season.”

“It’s hard for teams to match our speed,” Pinckney added. “This team is fun to watch.”

# S.A.M.E. members receive regional awards

Story by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Two members of the Chesapeake Post of the Society of American Military Engineers received regional awards during the group’s monthly meeting at Top of the Bay Feb. 18.

Regional Vice President’s Medals were presented to longtime members Jim Wolf, the current 1st vice president, and Tony Price, post director and past president.

Post President Col. Andrew B. Nel-

son, Aberdeen Proving Ground deputy garrison commander for Transformation, presented the awards.

Nelson said the Regional Vice President’s Medal is awarded to individuals who have made significant contributions within the region or local post in the past year or longer. He said the two were nominated and awarded for their long-time service and he praised both for performing “a tremendous amount of work for the post.”

A Baltimore County native and Vietnam-era veteran, Wolf is the director

of marketing for G.W. Stephens Jr. and Associates, a consulting engineering firm. He has been a member of S.A.M.E. since 1983 and was a founding member of the chapter in 1993. He called the award “fantastic.”

“There are only a few things I’m really proud of – serving in the Army is one, being a member of S.A.M.E. is two and receiving this award is three,” Wolf said. “It means a lot when people you serve with recognize what you do.”

During the meeting, speaker John Resta, scientific advisor to the U.S.

Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine spoke on the organization’s transformation to the U.S. Army Public Health Command.

## The Society of American Military Engineers

The mission of the Society of American Military Engineers is to promote and facilitate engineering support for national security by developing and enhancing relationships and competencies among uniformed services, public and private sector engineers, and related professionals.

## AFAP

### From front page

civilians; establish an integrated Army management system; implement an Army leader development strategy; and establish the Army of the twenty-first century.

“But the most important thing we will do is to increase the time Soldiers stay home,” Casey said to enthusiastic applause.

Other programs, Casey noted, have been introduced and running for more than a year but need to be revisited to ensure they continue to grow and gain acceptance.

“The Army Family Covenant is one of the programs that we will continue to put the right amount of funding into so that Family programs provide for all Soldiers and their Families,” Casey said, adding that Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, Installation Management Command commanding general, “is just the man to get this job done right.”

Casey said the \$225 billion budgeted for the service this year is enough to ensure the six objectives he and Secretary McHugh developed will be met, while ensuring Soldiers are well-trained and supported.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground delegate to the conference was Missy Uncangco, a program analyst and chief of Manpower, Personnel, Training and Acquisition with the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity. Uncangco also participated in the post AFAP conference in December and during the national conference she participated in the General Officer Steering Committee. She called her first exposure to the national level process, “an outstanding experience.”

“It was nice to see first-hand the level that issues are raised to,” she said. “Everyone had input and the leaders – General Casey, General Chiarelli and everyone else - seemed very interested in the process.”

A former Army “brat” whose husband is a retired master sergeant and current government civilian, Uncangco said she hopes to make a difference because she has experienced the military from so many perspectives.

“At the national level, everyone is represented – active duty, National Guard, wounded warriors, youths, Family members, spouses, everyone,” she said.

Uncangco said the working groups prioritized 82 issues received from Army garrisons worldwide and presented the top 16 to the military leaders. In addition, during the GOSC meeting, out of 22 active issues, seven were completed while the rest were deemed either ‘unattainable’ or ‘requires new action plan.’

“General Chiarelli said that after participating in three previous steering committee meetings, it was the first time he’d ever seen seven [issues] completed,” Uncangco said.

Uncangco provided an After Action Review to the Army Community Service and to the Garrison commander.

The issues selected to go forward to

the GOSC meetings in June:

- \*Provide a monthly stipend to ill/injured Soldiers for non-medical caregivers;

- \*Fund service dogs for wounded warriors;

- \*Provide for behavioral health services shortages by increasing the number of readily available behavioral health providers and services and the use of alternative methods of delivery such as tele-medicine;

- \*Authorize Family Readiness Groups to fundraise in public places external to National Guard armories, Reserve centers and military installations;

- \*Authorize Reserve Component Soldiers enrollment in the Exceptional Family Member Program.

The remaining 11 issues will continue through the GOSC process until a determination is made. They are: standard level of security measures in barracks; availability of 24/7 child care with Child, Youth and School Services delivery systems; Reserve Component inactive duty for training travel and transportation allowances; reduced eligibility age for retirement of Reserve Component Soldiers mobilized in support of overseas contingency operations; extended transitional survivor spouses’ TRICARE medical coverage; inequitable active-duty Family members prescription cost share; supplemental mission funds for Reserve Component Family Readiness Groups; compensatory time for Department of the Army civilians; Reserve Component government employees’ and their Family members’ access to TRICARE Reserve Select; TRICARE allowable charge reimbursement of upgraded/deluxe durable medical equipment; and standardization of privatized housing application process.

This isn’t the only list to keep Army leaders informed of what’s important to Soldiers and their Families.

On the first day of the AFAP conference, delegates were given the task of compiling a list of challenges the Army needed to address and what strengths it has accomplished.

Mobilization, Deployment and Family Readiness Strengths, determined by AFAP delegates are: Army Community Service; Army Family Action Plan; Army Family Team Building; Financial Counseling; Survivor Outreach Services; Family Advocacy; Volunteer Program; New Parent Support; Army Wounded Warrior Program; Chaplains’ Programs including Strong Bonds and Unit Ministry Team; Army Family Covenant and Community Covenant; and morale, welfare and recreation programs, including fitness, Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers, leisure travel, and other recreation programs.

Mobilization, Deployment and Family Readiness Challenges are: increasing suicide rate; length of deployments; impact of deployment on children and youth; duplicate programs, such as Army Community Service and Family Assistance Centers and Support for Wounded Warriors; and funding for Family and

deployment support programs.

Additionally, six critical active AFAP Issues were voted on from the remaining 70 issues reviewed during a GOSC meeting also held at the conference. While they did not make it into the June GOSC, they have been determined to be most important; as a result, Army senior leaders will continue to keep them foremost throughout the year.

The six are: military spouse unemployment compensation; Reserve component post mobilization counseling;

convicted sex offender registry; retro-active traumatic Service Member Group Life Insurance; bereavement permissive temporary duty; and medical entitlements for college-age Family members.

Summing up the meaning of the conference for delegates and attending Army senior leaders, Soldiers and Families, McHugh used a quote from the founder of the AFAP, retired Gen. John A. Wickam, Jr., former Army chief of staff, some 25 years ago -

“The stronger the Army, the stronger the Family.”





# FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

**Activities/Events**

**Franklin Mills Mall bus trip**

Go shopping at Franklin Mills Mall, Philadelphia, March 19. Franklin Mills Mall has 200 stores, two food courts, seven theme restaurants and an AMC movie theater. See more about the mall at [www.simon.com/mall/?id=1245](http://www.simon.com/mall/?id=1245).  
Cost of the trip is \$20 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation. The bus will depart the Best Western on Route 24, Edgewood at 9:30 a.m. and return 8 p.m. Payment is required to reserve a seat. Make a payment at the Leisure Ticket Office, AA Recreation Center, building 3326, or EA Recreation Center, building E4140.  
For more information, visit the MWR

Leisure Travel Office, AA Recreation Center, building 3326, or call 410-278-4011/4907, e-mail [APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil](mailto:APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil).  
**New York City shopping trip**  
Leisure Travel will offer a shopping trip to New York City March 5. Enjoy the city without the driving or parking problems. Cost is \$36 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation. The bus will depart 7:55 a.m. from the Edgewood Best Western parking lot at Route 24 and return 10:30 p.m.  
For more information or to reserve a seat, call MWR Leisure Travel Office, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center,

building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or email [APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil](mailto:APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil).  
**Broadway Across America**  
To purchase advance tickets for shows at the Hippodrome Theater in Baltimore, Warner Theatre in Washington, D.C., or at the Chrysler Hall in Norfolk, Va., please follow these steps:  
Based on the theater’s location, visit the appropriate website:  
Baltimore: <https://oss.ticketmaster.com/html/go.html?l=EN&t=baabal&o=62101240&g=448>  
Washington: <https://oss.ticketmaster.com/html/go.html?l=EN&t=baawdcmem&o=62101240&g=449>

Norfolk: <https://oss.ticketmaster.com/html/go.html?l=EN&t=baanor&o=62101240&g=450>  
After selecting a show, click on BUY TICKETS. Enter the password 105MWRAPGMD, then create a new account or log into an existing one. After choosing number of tickets, follow on-screen prompts to check out.  
Tickets are offered for a limited time. Check the website frequently for prices, show times, dates, seat availability, and expiration date.  
For more information, call FMWR Leisure Travel Services at the Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011 or 4907 or email [APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil](mailto:APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil).

**SKIES Unlimited**

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail [stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil](mailto:stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil).

**Private Piano Lessons**

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 to 18, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., on Tuesdays or Fridays, April 13 through May 21. Lessons cost \$102 per student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child.  
Students will be responsible for purchasing the required books for the course as recommended by the instructor.

**Basic arts and crafts class**

Basic Arts and Crafts will be taught through March 4 on Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for ages 6 to 10; and 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. for ages 11 to 15, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

**Looking for a job?**

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).  
All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.

# Easter Brunch

Reserve your seat now for Easter Brunch, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 4 at the Top of the Bay. Cost is \$21.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children ages 6 to 11 and \$2 for children ages 3 to 5.  
The breakfast buffet includes an omelet station, waffles with toppings, scrambled eggs, sausage and bacon, biscuits with sausage gravy, home fries and grits, bagels, muffins, danish and cereal.  
The luncheon buffet includes chicken cordon bleu, carving station with prime rib and roast pork, shrimp cre-

ole, rice pilaf, parsley buttered red skin potatoes and assorted vegetables,  
Cost also includes assorted desserts, mimosas, juice, coffee and tea.  
Reservations are required by March 31.  
For more information or for reservations, call 410-278-3062/2552/5915/5936, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



**The EDGE**

The EDGE Program is designed to highlight opportunities for children and youths in grades 1 through 12, to Experience, Develop, Grow and Excel in FMWR partner facilities.

**Volleyball program**

Pass! Set! Spike! Teens ages 11 to 18 can take their game to new heights. A free volleyball program will be held 4 to 6 p.m. on Fridays, March 5 through 26, at the Athletic Center, building 3300.  
For more information, call Chuck Rose, 410-278-1399, e-mail [chuck.rose1@us.army.mil](mailto:chuck.rose1@us.army.mil).

**Let the Good Times Roll II**

Friends, fun and food! A bowl-

the e d g e

ing program will be held 4 to 6 p.m., Mondays, March 1 through 29, at the Aberdeen Area Bowling Center. The program will provide youths and teens, ages 6 through 18, the opportunity to learn more about bowling, the approach, the swing and the skill in picking up all those “strikes and spares!” Bring a friend who is a DOD Family member and have even more fun. A program fee of \$40 applies to ages 6 to 10 years of age. The program is free to all eligible Family members ages 11-18 and guaranteed to be fun for everyone.

# February bowling specials

**Bowling specials**

- Early bird special: Bowl 7 to 10 a.m. for \$.50 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Each Friday, 9:30 to 11 p.m., bowl one game and receive one game free. Cost of shoe rental not included.
- It’s Cosmic Saturday on Feb. 27. Rent a lane for one hour (shoes included, up to 6 people), a whole cheese

pizza (toppings extra) and a pitcher of soda for \$32.  
The Bowling Center has started a 5:30 p.m. Monday night bowling league open to all interested bowlers and non-bowlers as well. Anyone interested in joining should call 410-278-4041.  
Call for availability of lanes on discounted days and hours.

# APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

**Building 2342**

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 1 to 11 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday.

**Week of Feb. 22**

- Special #1: Cheese steak wrap with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.75.  
Special #2: Chicken cheese steak wrap with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.95.

**Week of March 1**

- Special #1: Egg salad sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$3.95.  
Special #2: Pepperoni pizza sub with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$5.50.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.





# Seven Soldiers compete on Team USA for Olympic Winter Games

Story by  
**TIM HIPPS**  
F&MWR PAO

Seven current and former members of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program are competing on Team USA for the XXI Olympic Winter Games, being played through Feb. 28 in Vancouver and Whistler, British Columbia, Canada.

Five current and former WCAP bobsledders, along with U.S. men’s assistant bobsled coach Sgt. Bill Tavares, will tackle one of the world’s fastest tracks in Whistler, site of the bobsleigh competition Feb. 20 through 27.

WCAP biathlete Sgt. Jeremy Teela earned a spot on his third consecutive U.S. Olympic Team in biathlon, a combination of cross-country ski racing and rifle shooting from standing and prone positions. Five men’s biathlon races of different distances will be staged Feb. 14 through 26 in Whistler, site of the best performance of Teela’s career last year.

Four of the six U.S. men’s and women’s bobsled pilots learned the tricks of their trade while serving in WCAP under the tutelage of five-time Olympian Tavares, who will assist U.S. men’s bobsled head coach Brian Shimer.

WCAP Sgt. John Napier of Lake Placid, N.Y., will drive Team USA II’s four-man sled. His WCAP teammate, 1st Lt. Chris Fogt of Alpine, Utah, will be among that crew, joined by Chuck Berkeley of Clayton, Calif., and Steve Langton of Melrose, Mass.

Napier also will pilot USA II in the two-man competition with Langton aboard.

“Since my earliest memories, all I remember thinking about is this moment,” Napier said after being named to the U.S. Olympic Team. “It’s a dream come true.”

Shimer pointed out that Napier, at age 23, is perhaps the most experienced of the U.S. drivers because he’s the son of a bobsledder and began competing at age 8.

“This has just been a breakout season for John,” Shimer said. “The world has been awakened and they are not looking over him. John was under the radar. His first statement was to let the world know he was here. Some of these guys were his idols, and now he’s beating them down the hill.”

Sgt. Mike Kohn, a member of the National Guard Outstanding Athlete Program, was one of Napier’s boyhood idols. A former WCAP bobsledder, Kohn will drive Team USA III’s four-man sled with the crew of Jamie Moriarty of Winnetka, Ill., Bill Schuffenhauer of Orem, Utah, and Nick Cunningham of Monterey, Calif.

Kohn capitalized on a career-ending concussion suffered by Todd Hays that opened the door for the National Guard athlete to qualify a third Olympic sled for Team USA. Only three nations were qualified to enter three men’s sleds into the 2010 Olympics.

Kohn’s four-man team tied Canadian pilot Pierre Lueders’ squad for sixth place in the World Cup competition at St. Moritz, Switzerland, Jan. 16-17, with a combined time of 2 minutes, 10.85 seconds.

After he secured an Olympic berth at St. Moritz, Kohn said “This was one of the best experiences I’ve had in this sport.”

Kohn won the 2002 Olympic bronze medal as a push athlete with Shimer.

“Winning an Olympic medal was amazing, but it doesn’t compare to the team camaraderie felt over these last few weeks,” Kohn said. “The Olympics is about more than winning medals, and this experience is one I’ll remember for the rest of my life.”

“What an awesome day,” Kohn said of Jan 17. “Jamie, Bill and Nick were



Army National Guard Outstanding Athlete Program bobsled pilot Sgt. Mike Kohn (front right) leads his four-man squad at the start of a U.S. World Cup Team Trials race Oct. 24 at Park City, Utah. Kohn will drive Team USA III sleds in both two-man and four-man competitions at the XXI Olympic Winter Games in Whistler, British Columbia.

so fired up. They had tears in their eyes before we got to the line, and the entire team was behind them. There were so many people at the start and finish encouraging us.”

“During the America’s Cup races in Park City, Utah, I almost hung it up,” Kohn added. “Todd was beating me and I thought it would be impossible to qualify and I realized my Olympic dream as a driver wasn’t going to happen. Then all of a sudden I was given another chance. It wasn’t the way I wanted to get another chance, but I was grateful for the opportunity. I can’t thank Todd enough for his help and support over the last few weeks in helping our team. He’s been a huge part of my success.”

Kohn also will drive USA III in the two-man competition. His brakeman has not yet been determined.

Reigning four-man world champion Steven Holcomb, a former WCAP pilot from Park City, Utah, will drive the Team USA I sled, backed by Justin Olsen of San Antonio, Steve Mesler of Buffalo, N.Y.; and Curt Tomasevich of Shelby, Neb.

“The Night Train is becoming more and more popular and getting a lot of notoriety as we lead up to the games, and it’s well deserved,” Shimer said of Holcomb’s four-man sled. “These guys have the whole package.”

Holcomb also will drive the USA I sled in two-man competition with Tomasevich aboard.

On the women’s side, former WCAP bobsledder Sgt. Shauna Rohbock of the Army National Guard Outstanding Athlete Program will pilot Team USA I. A 2006 Olympic silver medalist who teamed with Valerie Fleming in Torino, Italy, Rohbock, of Park City, Utah, will be joined by Michelle Rzepka of Novi, Mich., in America’s top-rated women’s sled.

Erin Pac of Farmington, Conn., and Elana Meyers of Douglasville, Ga., will compete in USA II. Bree Schaaf of Bremerton, Wash., and Emily Azevedo of Chico, Calif., will be in USA III.



U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program biathlete Sgt. Jeremy Teela, a three-time Olympian, practices shooting from the standing position Oct. 21 at Soldier Hollow, Utah. Teela will compete for Team USA at the XXI Olympic Winter Games at Whistler. Five men’s biathlon races are scheduled for Feb. 14-26.

“We are thrilled to be sending our best U.S. women’s team ever to Whistler,” said U.S. Bobsled and Skeleton Federation Chief Executive Officer Darin Steele, another former WCAP bobsledder. “The selection committee had to make some very difficult decisions regarding the push athletes chosen to the team. Our deep pool of talented athletes is what makes us hard to beat.”

Rohbock led the U.S. women with a fifth-place finish at the World Cup event Jan. 16 in St. Moritz.

The Germans swept the podium spots in a closely contested race. Cathleen Martini teamed with Romy Logsch to top the field by only one-hundredth of a second with a combined time of 2 minutes, 14.89 seconds. Reigning Olympic champion Sandra Kiriasis partnered with Christin Senkel for a total time of 2:14.90 to claim silver, while Claudia Schramm and Berit Wiacker slid a combined time of 2:15.07 for bronze.

Rohbock and Rzepka posted identical start times of 5.64 seconds and runs of

1:07.87 and 1:07.70 for a combined time of 2:15.57.

Only two nations were granted three sleds in the 2010 Olympic women’s bobsled competition. Germany locked up the first spot earlier in the season based on points, but the second nation to qualify a third sled came down to a battle between Canadian Amanda Stepenko and U.S. pilot Schaaf, who secured her Olympic berth with two solid runs at St. Moritz.

“Today’s race was won by only one-hundredth of a second,” Rohbock said. “The competition is definitely picking up as we get closer to February. Every week is a challenge, and next month won’t get any easier. I’m excited that we qualified three sleds, because I think all of us are competitive and have a chance to do well.”

“I’m a little nervous going into the Olympics because I think the Germans are gaining momentum. Their push times are getting faster, they have aerodynamic sleds, and they will be tough to beat. But you never know what will happen at the Olympics. It’s always unpredictable.”